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	Title March 2007 Raccoon Road-kill Survey	

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**ABSTRACT :**

Raccoon road-kill surveys are conducted in Indiana during the months of March, July and August to estimate regional and statewide raccoon abundance (Figure 1). The March road-kill survey provides an estimate of relative abundance, not actual animal numbers, for Indiana's raccoon breeding population. Conservation Officers, Wildlife Section Biologists and F&W Property Managers record the number, sex and age of road-killed raccoons they observed while conducting daily operations.

A total of 1,267 raccoons were observed road-killed during 328,021 miles of travel observations in March 2007, resulting in a statewide index of 39 road-killed raccoons per 10,000 miles traveled (Table 1). The March 2007 index increased 56% from the previous year. Despite numerous reports from hunters, trappers and the general public about sick raccoons during summer/fall of 2006, Indiana's raccoon breeding population rebounded from a 2-year decreasing trend. With an abundant breeding population and assuming average offspring production during 2007, Indiana's statewide raccoon population is expected to remain at elevated levels.

Acknowledgement is due to all Division of Enforcement Officers, Wildlife Section Biologists and Property Managers who collect data for the road-kill survey.

Table 1. Number of road-killed raccoons sighted for every 10,000 miles traveled during March 1998-2007 in Indiana.

Region	Year									
	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
Northwest	21	27	26	31	25	46	53	41	29	35
Northeast	23	22	25	29	45	40	34	38	28	38
North Central	27	37	29	39	35	57	83	48	41	83
Southwest	9	12	14	12	17	27	24	24	15	22
South Central	16	17	16	23	21	34	21	18	20	32
Southeast	15	21	25	20	19	30	30	29	21	37
Statewide	19	22	22	25	24	37	37	32	25	39



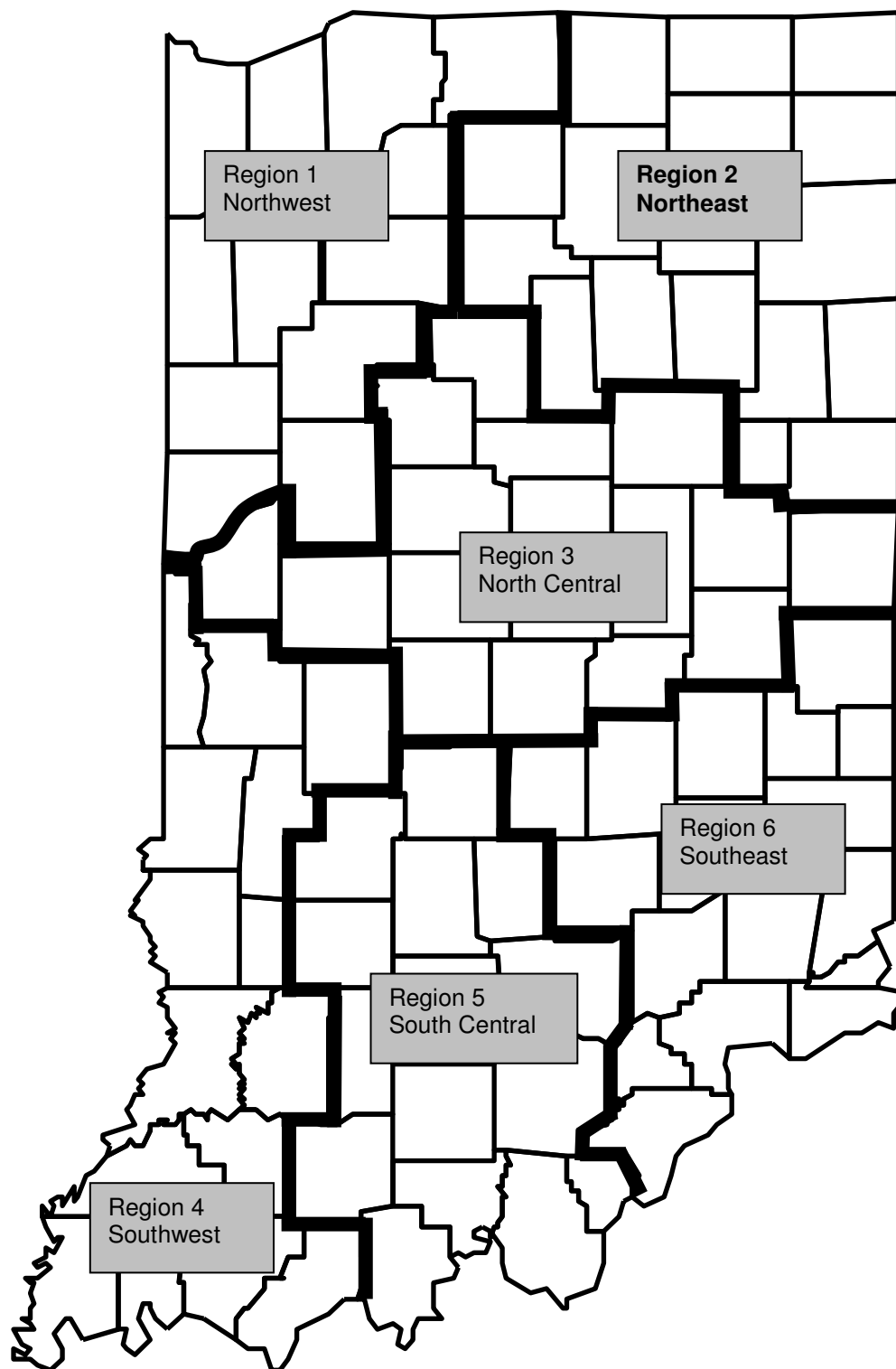


Figure 1. Indiana's fur harvest regions.